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College and School News

The emancipation day speech of Mrs. Ruby E. Stutts Lyells of ALCORN A. & M. COLLEGE delivered in Vicksburg, Miss., January 3, was published in the March 15 issue of *Vital Speeches*. Mrs. Lyells is an alumna of Alcorn, Hampton Institute, and the University of Chicago.

SAMUEL HOUSTON COLLEGE is sponsoring an unique feature in Negro education, an artist series. Artists in the series are Marion Jackson Downs, W. E. B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, Howard Boatwright, Helena Strassburger Boatwright, Margaret Walker, Arthur Kreu'z, Phillippa Duke Schuyler, Adam C. Powell, and Roland Hayes.

In the month of April DELAWARE STATE COLLEGE was the scene of three conferences: the Delaware Principals Association, the Delaware Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers, and the Delaware Home Economics and Agriculture Teachers Association. The principals outlined procedures for improvement of elementary education in the state; the Parent-Teacher Association has for its theme "The Role of Youth in Shaping a Better America"; and the agriculture teachers discussed problems peculiar to their group. A special feature of the college field day, May 13, was folk dancing for girls.

Dr. William H. Gray, Jr., president of FLORIDA NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE and a director of the war training program of the college, has been invited by the United States Office of Education to participate in a special conference on trades and industrial education for Negroes to be held in New Orleans, La.

FISK UNIVERSITY commencement was held May 31-June 5. The address was delivered by Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard University.

Miss Margaret Shaw Campbell presented Fisk with a \$10,000 international student center during the celebration of the Fifteenth Annual Festival of Music and Fine Arts. The



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Among the prominent people on the program of the music festival were Dr. Hu Shih, former Chinese ambassador to the United States, and the tenor Roland Hayes.

The General Education Board has appropriated \$4,000,000 for the endowment fund of MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE, according to an announcement of Charles Nelson, president of the board of trustees, and President Edward L. Turner. At the same time, it was announced that an additional grant of \$300,000 from the same source would be used as a contingent fund for current expenses of the college, becoming effective July 1.

Meharry is rated among the leading institutions in the country for Negroes. Organized in 1876 as the medical department of the Old Central Tennessee College, Meharry in 1915 obtained a new charter from the state of Tennessee as an independent institution. During its long existence the school has conferred approximately 5,000 degrees, and its graduates are located in Negro communities throughout the United States, Central America, the West Indies and Africa.

On founders' day, April 7, the board of trustees of JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY announced a five-year expansion plan for its theological and religious education units involving an expenditure of \$500,000. First unit in the expansion plan will be a \$125,000 building to house the administrative, academic, and activities phase of the work.

On April 27 an inter-seminary retreat for students and faculty was held at the university. Participating schools were Hood Seminary of Livingstone College, Shaw University Seminary, and the Johnson C. Smith Seminary.

The seventh annual one-day all-student spring forum was observed April 28. On April 30 the Gamma Lambda chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority unveiled a plaque in honor of the late Mrs. Mary J. McCrorey.

John H. Carter, assistant professor of French and Spanish at STOWE TEACHERS COLLEGE, has successfully passed his final examinations for the degree of doctor of philosophy in French, with minors in Spanish and Latin, at the University of Illinois. He completed his research under a Rosenwald fellowship grant during the academic year 1942-43. The title of his doctoral dissertation is "A Study of Social Problems in the Novels of

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Four members of the WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE faculty are listed in the 1944 edition of *American Men of Science*. They are Dr. Herman George Canady, psychology; Dr. Toye George Davis, parasitology; Professor Paul J. Moore, organic chemistry; and Dr. William James Wallace, physical chemistry.

The college celebrated pan-Americanism with a special program April 16. Dr. Louis Price-Mars of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, now visiting professor of social psychology at Fisk, was the principal speaker.

A feature of the woman's day program was an address by Miss Lillian Smith, author of *Strange Fruit*.

Combined baccalaureate and commencement programs of the college were held May 28. In departure from the traditional commencement speaker, Roland Hayes rendered the commencement message in song instead of spoken words.

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (Mo.) held a two-day educational conference April 28-29. Theme of the conference was "Effecting Better Articulation between High School and the College through the Industrial Arts."

"The Knockout," a print by James D. Parks, head of Lincoln's art department, was chosen for the second Atlanta University purchase award and will become a part of the university's art collection.

SHAW UNIVERSITY held its seventy-ninth annual commencement May 29. Noble Y. Beall, field secretary for Negro education of the Southern Baptist board of education, was the commencement speaker. Rev. W. H. Hester of Boston, Mass., preached the baccalaureate sermon.

On April 12 Dr. Modocai W. Johnson, president of Howard University, delivered the address at the fourth annual theological day exercises.

Representative from 169 North Carolina high schools met at NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE May 8 and organized a state-wide home economics club.

A two-day session of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs was held at the college May 12-13.

On April 10 the SPELMAN COLLEGE glee club gave its annual concert in Sisters Chapel. Willis Laurence James has been director of the club for eleven years.

William M. Cooper, director of summer school and extension at HAMPTON INSTITUTE, has been elected a member of the executive council of the American Association for

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Adult Education. He also has been appointed to serve on the State Farm Security Advisory Committee of Virginia.

Thirty visiting instructors from colleges and schools in different parts of the country will join the summer school faculty of Hampton Institute this year. Seventeen members of the regular instructional staff of the college will also teach in the summer school, which opens on June 20.

George W. Hunter, assistant professor of chemistry, is author of an article in the April issue of the *Journal of Chemical Education*.

Viktor Lowenfeld, head of the art department, has been elected to the board of trustees of the Virginia Art Alliance for a three-year term. Lowenfeld has been at Hampton Institute since 1939, and is well-known both as an artist and a psychologist.

Ten present and former students of Lowenfeld were represented by paintings, sketches, and sculpture at the exhibit of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts which opened in Richmond May 6.

During the week May 7-14 the college held a six-day observance of National and Inter-American Music Week in memory of the late Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett, former director of music.

Commencement exercises of the college were held May 29. Dr. Rayford W. Logan, professor of history at Howard University, was the main speaker. Other speakers were Dr. Algernon D. Black, who delivered the baccalaureate sermon, and the Very Reverend Chester B. Emerson, who gave the charge to the candidates for degrees and spoke at the annual banquet of the alumni association.

Chaplain C. A. Chazeaud announces that Hampton's annual Ministers' Conference will be held at the college June 26-30.

The United College Fund has received the endorsement of Justice Miles W. Paige of Special Sessions Court, New York City, and Governor J. Melville Broughton of North Carolina.

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NEXT MONTH

We hope to begin publishing the series of articles by Captain Grant Reynolds on "What the Negro Soldier Thinks." The first two in the series have been written but have not yet been cleared by the War Department. With the July issue we shall begin carrying the first in a series of pictures of our branch presidents. This will be a continuing feature. Mrs. Elta C. Roberts of Abilene, Texas, tells what she did to interest white people in better racial understanding. Norman Daymond Humphrey, co-author of *Race Riot*, promises an article on "The Growing Crisis in American Caste."

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Chester B. Himes is already well-known to *Crisis* readers through his stories and articles. He lives in Los Angeles, California. Richard Pattee, former professor at the University of Puerto Rico and an outstanding authority on Latin America, now lives in Mexico City, Mexico.

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"Miss Negro Victory Workers," 1944

Something novel, in the way of national merit awards is "Miss Negro Victory Worker," being sponsored by the Negro Freedom Rally, as it prepares for its 1944 rally at Madison Square Garden, June 26. The winner of the competition will be presented to the huge Garden crowd on that night, and will receive a War Bond with the Merit Award Certificate.

Negro Shipyard Workers Increase

Wartime employment of non-white shipyard workers, predominantly Negroes, has increased more than fifteenfold since 1940, the OWI reported in May on the basis of information furnished by the Maritime Commission, the Navy Department, the Bureau of the Census, and the War Manpower Commission.

USO Council Reorganized

The newly formed National USO Council, designed to guide the changes in organizational policies made necessary by the shifting courses of the war, recently held its first meeting at headquarters, New York City. The Council, headed by Mrs. Maurice T. Moore, is made up of USO chairmen and vice-chairmen from every state, and a group of civic and business leaders serving as members-at-large. Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and C. C. Spaulding are serving on the Council as members-at-large.

Sergeant Retired

After thirty years and forty-eight days of service to his country, First Sergeant Walter Johnson, 51, "top-kick" of the 4907th AAF Base Unit (Aviation Detachment) at Kelly Field, Texas, has officially retired.

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Editorials

Foul Tip by Dewey

Governor THOMAS E. DEWEY, characterized by this magazine two months ago as having had two strikes called upon him by reason of his actions on the soldier vote bill and the New York State Fair Employment Practice bill, has struck a foul tip, to continue the baseball language, in his exchange with Walter White on the anti-poll tax bill.

Mr. White, fresh from his overseas trip, plunged into the lobby for the anti-poll tax bill when it came up in the Senate by agreement on May 9. The question was on cloture, limitation of debate, to break an announced filibuster and get the bill before the Senate so it could be voted upon on its merits. The key to the cloture vote was the attitude of Republican senators. Minority Leader Wallace White of Maine let it be known that he was not going to vote for cloture and was not going to bring any pressure to bear upon Republican senators to get them to vote for it.

In this emergency, Mr. White telegraphed Governor Dewey to urge Republican senators to vote for cloture and for the pending bill because of his "strategic position in the Republican party."

Mr. Dewey replied by saying: "I have your telegram concerning the fight against the poll tax bill now pending in the United States Senate. My views on this subject are well known. I have always fought against the poll tax and every other device to deprive free people of their votes."

To this Mr. White replied that for a man in Mr. Dewey's position to declare merely that he was against the poll tax was "not enough." Mr. Dewey said no more and the Republicans proceeded to join the reactionary Dixie senators in booting the anti-poll tax bill off the Senate calendar.

In referring to Mr. Dewey's strategic position in the Republican party Mr. White was using polite language to say that Dewey is practically the Republican nominee for President of the United States. His word to Republican senators would have carried great weight. He could here have taken a stand and submitted himself to the judgment of millions of Negro and white voters who believe that a poll tax, and the evils it produces in our legislative system, are matters upon which a man who seeks the highest office within the gift of the American people should declare himself.

Mr. Dewey ducked. Mr. Dewey ducked on the New York State Fair Employment bill. Mr. Dewey not only ducked on the soldier vote bill, but he gave aid and comfort to Congressman John E. Rankin and Senator

James O. Eastland of Mississippi, both of whom declared the states rights bill was necessary to preserve white supremacy. Mr. Dewey spoke out for a states' rights bill.

If Mr. Dewey should be elected President, will he be a poll tax, states' rights President who plays ball with Bilbo, Rankin, Connally, Cotton Ed Smith and their ilk? His record to date indicates that he will.

Nobody is Fooled

THE Republican Senators are fooling no one with their almost unanimous—as this is written—endorsement of an amendment to the Constitution banning the imposition of a poll tax by any state as a prerequisite to voting. This amendment will have to be passed by three-fourths of the House and three-fourths of the Senate. Then it will start the rounds of the state legislatures and will have to be passed by 36 of the 48 state bodies. This could easily take until doomsday and the ten million white and Negro citizens now disfranchised by the poll tax would still be waiting for a chance to vote on who should be their President, their senators and congressmen. The senators are emulating Mr. Dewey on his state FEPC bill—stalling until after the election—but, like Mr. Dewey, they are too, too transparent.

Goodbye to Joe Starnes

IT is goodbye (without tears) to Congressman Joe Starnes of the Fifth District of Alabama. The general opinion is that the CIO Political Action Committee was responsible for the defeat of Starnes in the primary. If so, our hats are off to the CIO. Starnes was one of the most vicious of the anti-Negro congressmen from the Deep South. He was particularly vicious on all housing programs and went out of his way to hurt Negroes and deprive them of the benefits of public housing. Moreover he threatened the whole national housing program with defeat unless his ideas of the proper treatment of Negroes were made a part of the policy. Probably more than any other one man, he was responsible for the adoption by federal housing agencies of the policy of segregation not only in the South, but in the North as well.

Along with Starnes, the CIO defeated John Costello of California, and frightened Martin Dies of Texas so completely that he withdrew from the race. Thus, the infamous Dies Committee has just about been destroyed.

Starnes's activity is a perfect illustration of the evil of the system whereby southern congressmen from poll tax states are enabled to impose their bigoted local ideas on the

rest of the nation. His defeat should indicate to Negro voters the necessity of combining their ballots with those of progressive labor voters to defeat the common enemies of both the Negro and organized labor.

Court-Martial for Rape

ONE of the chief observations of Walter White on his trip overseas was the severity of punishment meted out to Negro soldiers by special and general military trials. It was his feeling that the War Department ought to see that more competent Negro lawyers are commissioned and asked to serve on military courts, and he made this recommendation to the department.

His point is perfectly illustrated by the New Caledonia case in which two Negro soldiers, after paying a prostitute, were tried and convicted of rape and sentenced to life imprisonment. The sentences were later reduced to eight and ten years respectively, but the suspicion will not down that the men should never have been convicted in the first instance.

Now comes a case reported from Australia in which four Negro soldiers and one Negro merchant seaman have been convicted of rape and sentenced to death by hanging. The complete record in the case has not arrived in this country as yet, but from the summary forwarded by civilian counsel, it would appear that death should not have been the penalty. The point is, as Walter White has stressed, that these men, far from home, with no friendly face near them, with no officer of their own race as a member of the court, faced with the average American white attitude toward an incident involving a Negro man and a white woman, simply do not get a fair trial. The War department should act on the White recommendation.

House Votes FEPC \$500,000

THE President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was voted \$500,000 by the House May 26, the appropriation being included in a huge war agencies bill. Congressman Clarence Cannon of Missouri moved that the whole bill be exempted from points of order. It was so agreed. The Dixie foes of FEPC had been depending upon the point of order rule to destroy FEPC. With this removed they were forced to come out in the open and fight the agency by name. They won two test votes, but on the final vote they lost by a margin of four votes. This would seem to indicate that every friend of FEPC must be alert as the bill goes to the Senate to see that senators vote for the appropriation when it comes up in the upper house.

Southern Editorial Opinion on the Primary Decision

"COMMENT by southerners on the Supreme Court decision ruling that Negroes have legal right to vote in the primaries of Texas follows, in general," says the Asheville, N. C., *Times*, the population lines between Virginia and the Deep South." This seems to be true, for editors in the upper south have, on a whole, hailed the decision; while those in the deep south argue that the law can be circumvented, or that "white supremacy" is threatened, or that race relations will be disturbed.

The Asheville, N. C., *Times*, from which we have already quoted, goes on in this same editorial to remark: "In Virginia and North Carolina a slowly increasing number of Negroes vote in primaries and general elections—and yet life continues to go on in these states along normal lines. In the Texas case, at any rate, Justice Reed for the majority has stated the law as it ought to be stated. His chief point is that a political party cannot claim to be a private concern disfranchising whom it chooses by legal maneuvers with a primary in which nomination is equivalent to election."

The Durham *Herald* believes "The Supreme Court of the United States could hand down no other opinion than that Negro citizens of Texas should be allowed to vote in the primaries. There are arguments that would eliminate all who are not members of the particular parties. But in states where the primary system is operative, often the primary vote is the only vote necessary." This opinion is seconded by the Greensboro *News*: "Decision of the United States Supreme Court that Negroes may not be barred from the Texas Democratic primary by reason of race, color or previous condition of servitude was to have been expected from the court as at present constituted, but we trust one may be pardoned the expression of some doubt as to the efficacy of the ruling. . . ."

Then somewhat superciliously the *News* adds: "There will be a terrific protest from the deeper south. From this immediate part of the world we expect to hear little or no uproar. Negroes are already participating in Democratic primaries and have been for years, although it was not until the new deal came along that they came in under their own power."

On April 12 the *News* made further comment: "There is no particular reason why the Supreme Court's decision, decreeing that a Negro cannot be barred from a Democratic

On April 3, 1944, the United States Supreme Court ruled that Negroes cannot be barred from the Democratic primary in Texas. The decision was followed by an outburst of editorial opinion in southern papers, some of which are recorded in this article

primary in states like Texas, should create any great stir in North Carolina, save in the interest that it focuses upon the deep south and its potential effect upon the course of southern Democracy. Negroes have been participating in Democratic primaries in this state right along. Nor does North Carolina have a poll tax requirement for voting. And nothing has occurred, despite this free voting, to upset either the racial or the political applecart hereabouts. Rather we believe that Tarheelia can boast of infinitely better race relations and a much higher quality of place-holders, on the average, than can its discriminating neighbors to the south. . . . Negroes have become politically conscious and realistic enough to know that whatever they get done for themselves in one-party states and localities will have to be achieved through voting strength and power within that party."

Approval of Decision

In Virginia, a state in the upper south, editorial opinion of the two capital dailies, the *News Leader* and the *Times-Dispatch*, was approbative. After quoting the words of Justice Reed that Negroes could not be barred from the primaries because of their race, the *News Leader* comments: "This, we must add, has been the opinion of the *News Leader* since the opinion of 1932. We have not believed a state could make exclusive to one race a system of nomination that was accepted by State law as lawful. The primary in the South usually is the election."

The *Times-Dispatch*: "Since Negroes have been admitted to Democratic primaries in Virginia for many years, it is little difficult to understand the tremendous amount of indignation and heat generated in the Deep South by the United States Supreme Court's decision that they have a right to enter such primaries everywhere. The skies haven't fallen in the Old Dominion because of participation by colored citizens in our primaries. Indeed, thousands of white Virginians probably did not know whether colored persons voted

in this State's Democratic primaries or not, until the issue was brought sharply to the fore by the court's decision. . . .

"If it is contended in the Deep South that the problem is more serious there than in the Upper South, the difference is merely one of degree. . . .

"That decision is one more milestone on the way to fairness and justice for the Negro. If millions of citizens are to be deprived of any voice in choosing their own public officials—as is the desire of certain Southern politicians, who would ban them completely from the all-important Democratic primaries—then we may well ask ourselves just what the 'four freedoms' for which we are fighting in this war amount to. No society is a truly democratic one which shuts out anywhere from a quarter to a half of its people from all part in the choice of officials under whom they must live and work."

In Kentucky the Louisville *Courier-Journal* speaks out in forthright terms:

"A citizen is denied the right to vote at all when he is denied the right to vote in a Democratic primary in states, like Texas, where the Democratic Party prevails and its nominee, therefore, becomes automatically the winner of the general election. There is no getting around this, and there is no getting around the words of the Fifteenth Amendment: 'The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.' The Supreme Court, in its eight-to-one decision of a Texas Negro excluded from a Houston primary, has upheld logic, justice and the plain intent of the Constitution."

"The previous doctrine of the court was, as it was stated on one occasion, that 'primaries are in no sense elections for an office but merely methods by which party adherents agree upon the candidate they intend to offer.' This is fiction in any state where primaries are established by state law and the parties thereby recognized as government agencies in one essential step in elections for an office. And it becomes sheer fantasy in a state where one party's primary is, in practical fact, direct election to office. . . .

"The Texas decision is a historic victory for principle, but it, of course, has not opened the polling places to the Negroes of Texas or any other state where they are barred now. It has swept aside a fiction, but it has not advanced democracy, except in theory

and for the long term, because in the nature of things Southern it cannot do so. A variety of dodges remain—ranging all the way from outright intimidation to ingenious educational requirements—and they will be used. Where it is thought necessary, legislatures doubtless will take action designed to get around the decision one way or another. Besides, the poll tax structure is still there to keep most Negroes, along with poor people generally, out of participation in the government.

"The practical effect of the court's action may even be to give an 'issue' to the RANKINS and BILBOS, thereby establishing white supremacy more firmly and belligerently for the time being. Nevertheless, it was a decision that ought to have been handed down, an expression of the truth which, the philosopher said, is the beginning of every good thing. . . ."

Reaction in Texas

It is interesting to note the editorial reaction to the decision in Texas, the state directly affected. The *Dallas News* cautiously opines:

"When southern leaders have occasionally suggested that the Democratic party should voluntarily throw down the bars to Negroes, there has been quick protest from a majority faction of the southern people. When it has occasionally been suggested that the South would do well to develop a two-party political system, quick protest has come from the same quarter. Now the Supreme Court, largely appointed by a Democratic President and holding primarily to the political and social theories of this President, has ruled to force down bars of the southern Democratic primary to the Negro voters. Seemingly, the majority of the southern white people have worked to cross-purposes in their political sentiments."

In another paragraph the editor expresses the belief that the Supreme Court erred in "deciding in effect that the political party is an agency of the state—though there may be substance in the court's argument that the state itself (in the instance of Texas, at least) has already taken the lead in this direction." And then he warns: "One other thing the South must certainly do for its protection. It must declare its political independence by throwing off the one-party collar. It requires little thinking to see that a two-party system would have averted the present Supreme Court decision. It would have averted both the bad consequences that the decision may have and the bad conditions that brought the decision on."

In concluding he sagely remarks: "'Southern Solidarity' has served its constructive ends. It must assume a new meaning. And with it southern people and their leaders must assume a new responsibility with a new, realistic and constructive attitude toward, and attack upon, their growing problems."

On the other hand, the *Dallas Times-*

Herald, while craftily deploring the decision of the Court, asks that Texans do nothing "that might be construed as contempt of that august body." And after deploring the lot of southern Negroes, weeping over his lot in northern slums and pitying him for being the plaything of northern politicians, the *Times-Herald* declares that "A vote for the Negro in the Democratic primaries in Texas and other Southern states will not help the situation."

The *San Antonio Express*, however, takes the stand that the decision is realistic:

"In its latest related decision, asserting the right of Negroes to vote in Texas Democratic primaries, the United States Supreme Court is more realistic than in the 1935 opinion, which the tribunal thus reversed. The former ruling took refuge in a technicality—holding that action by a Democratic Party convention did not constitute action by the state."

"In taking that stand, the Court ignored the patent fact that in Texas—as in the other Southern States—nomination by the Democratic Party is equivalent to election. Consequently, if a citizen be barred from voting in the primaries, he is effectively disfranchised. It did not require a Supreme Court decision to tell the people that. . . . The Democratic primaries are, to all practical purposes, State elections, subject to State legal control. Thus, 'the same tests for discrimination apply to a primary as to a general election.'" The *Express*, nevertheless, does not expect the primary decision to "work a political revolution in the South." And like the *Dallas News* the editor concludes by asking for a two-party system in the south because "a civic situation in which nomination by one party unfailingly spells election, is decidedly unhealthy."

No matter what the Supreme Court decrees, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* calculates that it is "safe to presume that the Democratic party in the South will remain a 'white man's party' and that Texas, against which the newest and most formidable challenge is directed, will devise the pattern by which this status will be retained."

White Supremacy

The white supremacy argument bulks large in the editorials of papers in Mississippi. "One thing is certain, however," says the *Jackson Clarion-Ledger*. "This decision will not be 'accep'ed' in Mississippi, and Mississippi Democrats will not voluntarily open their primaries to any but white voters, without resistance, or every possible effort being made to circumvent the decision if an effort is made to apply it to Mississippi. . . ." The *News* of the same city defiantly boasts: "The United States Supreme Court rules that negroes can vote in party primaries—including Democratic party primaries. They can't in Mississippi."

In Alabama the *Birmingham Age-Herald*

brags that ". . . the South knows more ways to keep the Negro from voting than the United States Supreme Court can ever stop or circumvent, and that those ways will continue to be employed wherever and whenever the South thinks the voting menaces its order and its institutions." And then it explains peevishly: "If only our friends up North could learn this. If only they could understand that, short of another civil war which they are not at all willing to wage, they cannot advance the Negro in the South by force but only by persuading and encouraging Southerners themselves to advance him. . . . The decision of the nation's highest tribunal will result in much emotion and little voting. . . ."

According to the *Birmingham Post*, ". . . The decision will not make the problem of friendly race relations in the South easier for either side but it need not destroy the basis of understanding which has been built up by trial and error through the years. There are other ways of preserving Southern tradition without violating any provision of the Constitution. They will be found and they can be put into effect without detriment to the Negro."

"The United States Supreme Court followed a national trend, forced by racial agitators within the New Deal, when it reversed its ruling of nine years' standing and held on Monday that negroes have the right to vote in Texas Democratic primary elections," complains the *Mobile Press*.

"It [Supreme Court decision] opens the way for aggravating meddling on the part of that element in the country that thrives on stirring up trouble in matter about which it knows nothing," warns the *Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union*. "It is apparent that the negro vote decision of the United States Supreme Court will have no immediate effect upon the Florida Democratic primaries," boasts the *Tampa Tribune*.

Public Sentiment

"LAW CAN BE DECLARED, but respect for and observance of the law come only from public sentiment. . . .," declares the *Atlanta, Ga., Journal*.

"It is difficult to see how the Supreme Court could have ruled other than it did. The question before it was one which it could consider only in the abstractions of justice and the Constitution. But, unfortunately, we in the South are faced by a condition, not a theory."

"How we can reconcile the abstraction of equality and citizenship with the practical necessities of good government is not so easily to be determined. It is a matter in which time and education and the development of tolerance on the one hand and of civic responsibility on the other are required."

"In the meantime, all of us, white and colored, will forward the cause of peace and

(Continued on page 204)

All God's Chillun Got Pride

By Chester B. Himes

*He is twenty-nine now and he is in the guard-house.
He was guilty.
Simple.*

HE was twenty-five in 1940 and she was twenty-three, and they had been married since the summer of 1937; and in all that time he had only kept one secret from her. That was a thing he could not tell her; if he had ever told her that, they would have both been lost. Because the way had been rocky; dark and rocky. And the only thing that had kept them going was his posed belligerence, his air of bravado, disdain, even arrogance.

As the white girl, Helen, said in 1939, when he had been promoted from labor to research and assigned to work in the public library, "When I first saw you, I said to myself, 'What's this guy doing on his muscle? What have we done to him?'"

But don't condemn him from the start. Because he needed it; he needed being on his muscle, he needed his tight-faced scowl, his high-shouldered air of disdain, his hot, challenging stare, his manner of pushing into a pleasant room and upsetting everyone's disposition with the problem that he rolled in front of him, as big and as vicious and as alive as if it was a monster on a chain; he needed all of his crazy, un-called-for and out-of-place defiance, his lack of civility and rudeness; he needed every line of the role he assumed in the morning upon arising and played throughout the day, not even letting down when alone with his wife, the role of swaggering, undaunted, and unafraid, and even ruthlessly through the ever-coming days, through the hard-hurried crush of white supremacy, through the realization of odd identity, through the ever-present knowledge that if he lost the ball no one would pick it up and give it to him, if he ever fell down he'd be trampled, unmercifully, indifferently, without even being thought of, that he was alone and would always be alone without defense or appeal; he needed every ungracious thing he ever did.

Because every morning that he lived, he awakened scared. Scared that this day, maybe, toleration of him would cease; scared that this day, maybe, he would just give up and quit the struggle—what was the use, anyway? What could he hope for? He was tired, so terribly tired; he doubted if he could get through the day; scared not only of his giving up but of his crushing out, scared of saying to himself, "I'm gonna break out of here, I'm gonna crush out this existence

Keith Richards never dares face his own problem, his pride and frustration, but one day after he joined the army his pride went up and he is now in the guard house. A story of the dark ways of pride when one is ghastly afraid of his own thoughts

of being a black beast in white America; I'm gonna take a running head start and butt a hole through this wall, no matter how thick it is, or I'm gonna splatter my brains from end to end of Euclid." Scared of just being black—that was it. One of the ancient librarians who avoided him as if he were diseased, who refused to hear when he addressed them directly, who were vitrolic when finally replying, who let him stand unattended before their desks while they carried on thirty-minute conversations over the telephone concerning everything under God's sun and would then arise and walk away, who made it as tough as they possibly could, would some day say to him, "Why in heaven's name can't you colored people be patient?" and he would snarl at her right off the very top of his muscle, "Why you-you, why go to hell, you beatup biddy!" And he would be out of a job. All of the Negroes who ever hoped to work in the library project of the W.P.A. in Cleveland, Ohio, would be out of jobs; the whole race would feel it and he would be a traitor not only to himself but to twelve million other people who didn't have a thing to do with it. He'd have to go home and tell Clara that he blew up and lost his job; and God know's they couldn't go hungry anymore. He hated to think of what might happen, because they couldn't take another period of that hungry hopelessness. Or he would go into a store and raise Cain because the white clerks would not wait on him and the police would come and he would tell them he was a citizen and they would laugh and take him down to central station and beat his head into a bloody pulp; and the only thing he could do would be just to fight back physically as long as he could. Scared of walking down the street and being challenged because some one might think he walked too proudly. Scared of asking for a white man's job; just scared to do it, that's all. Not scared because he might not be able to do it, because he might turn out to be the very best. Nor scared so much of being refused, because

being refused was something that he always expected; being black and being refused were synonymous. Being refused had its own particular sensation; not so much scare, not even anger so much—just a dead heavy weight that he must carry, just an eternal pressure, almost too much, but not quite, to bear, impossible to ignore, but too tightly smothering to rebel, too opaque, too constant, too much a part of the identification of color; it was impossible to realize what it would mean not being refused, impossible to visualize the mind outside of this restriction, impossible to rationalize acceptance. Why, good Lord! To cut him loose from the anchoring chains of refusal, he'd go running, jumping mad. As mad as Thomas Jefferson when he wrote, "All men are created equal . . ." As mad as all those crazy, freezing men that crossed the Delaware, fighting for the right to starve—and be independent. As mad as all the other running, jumping, insane people who shoulder through the world as if they owned it, as the women who flounce down Broadway with silver foxes dragging, knowing they are accepted. Mad! He'd go stark, raving mad! Mad as all free people. . . . Just scared to walk in and ask; scared of the act. Why? Why are little children scared to cross the street. Surely they are not scared of what's on the street. Because they have been taught not to; because they know they will get a whipping if they do. And although he tried to get outside this teaching of America; it was inside of him, making him scared. Scared to talk to a white girl, to laugh with her and tell her she was beautiful. Not of being rebuffed; he was a handsome chap and the chances were against his being rebuffed by any woman. Not of being lynched; this was Cleveland, Ohio. They don't hang Negroes in the north; they have other and more subtle ways of killing them. Just scared of talking to her, of the act.

He could not tell this to anyone; especially not to Clara. She was scared, herself; and she couldn't tell him. No Negro can tell another, not even wife, mother, or child, how scared he is. They might discover that they are all scared, and it might get out. And if it ever got out then they wouldn't have but two choices; one would be to quit, and the other would be to die. Whereas now they have three; they have self-delusion. If he told Clara, they wouldn't have had a chance; because what kept her going was thinking he wasn't scared.

So each day, of a necessity, in order to live and breathe, he did as many of these things

of which he was scared to do as he could do short of self-destruction. He did them to prove he wasn't scared so the next day he would be able to get up and live and breathe and go down to the library and work as a research assistant with a group of white people.

The necessity of his continuing to live and breathe troubled him to some extent because he could not really understand it. Having been educated in America, he had learned of course that living and breathing, unaccompanied by certain other inalienable rights, such as liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, were of small consequence; but he had learned, also, that this ideology did not apply to him. He never really sat down and thought about it for any length of time; because he knew that if he ever did, living in America would become impossible. That if he ever made an honest crusade into abstract truth and viewed Negroes and whites in physical, spiritual, mental comparison, detached from false ideologies and vicious, man-made traditions, dwelling only on those attributes which made of what he saw a man, and not of what his forebearers might have been nor what he claimed to be by race, he would see, aside from pigmentation of skin and quality of hair, little difference in anatomy, mentality, and less difference in soul. He would see the same flesh, the same bones, the same blood, the same ability to walk upright, differentiating them all from other, and supposedly lower species of animals, the same organs of reproduction; he would see the same false convictions, taught by the same teachers and learned in the same way; the same capacity for good and evil, for viciousness and generosity, for lust and philanthropy, he would see the passions in both compelling them to rape, steal, maim, murder, he would see the impelling urge for wealth, the destructive desires for power, the seeds of untold lies and the skeletons of deceptions, he would see the same knowledge gleaned from the same founts; and when he looked into their souls and saw all the rotted falseness of ideologies imposed upon them all so that the few of any race could live and fatten from the blood, sweat, and tears of the many of all races, all the corruption of religions and philosophies and laws by which they all chained themselves to spiritual and physical slavery, and dedicated their offsprings for untold generations to ever-recurring horrors, for the life of him, God be his solemn judge, he could not have told the black from the white.

And after that, after he had seen the truth sheared of all the falseness of tradition and ideology, there would have been nothing to have done with that "nigger" but to have taken him out and shot him.

But he did not ever seek the conviction of this truth—or its strength; he let it remain vague and unexplored in the fastness of his mind like some hidden, vicious monster that would destroy him once it was released. He never once opened that door, although he

opened many others. Simply because he was scared; that was all—just scared.

HIS name was Keith Richards, but people called him "Dick." He was about five-nine, weighed between one-fifty-five and one-sixty, and walked with a stiff-backed swagger. He had never had more than two good suits of clothes and one good pair of shoes since he had been grown, but he always managed to look well-groomed, perhaps because he was handsome. His complexion was black and he had features like an African prince, and when he forgot his scowl and accidentally laughed, he came on like bright lights.

Women could have loved him if he had given them a chance, but illness and poverty had thrown him mostly into contact with white women and he had always been on his muscle. He seldom relaxed enough for them to get to know him.

He had often wondered why Clara Street had married him; she was a really beautiful girl. She could have married any one of a number of handsome and very well-to-do men of all races; and why she chose to string along with him, a rebel more or less who had been kicked out of college in his sophomore year and who didn't know how to do anything at all but starve, he never knew. He could sketch a little and he dabbled in water colors and occasionally he wrote a feature article for one of the weekly newspapers; but this did not make him extraordinary—there are a million Negro youths with that much talent on the ball.

So he was a little scared of this, also. Some day some crazy impulse would prompt him to touch it, to prod into it to see if it was real, to search for its dimensions and perspective, to see if it was another practical joke the white folks were playing on him, and he would discover that Clara was not there at all, and that Negroes were even denied the emotion of love and the holy state of matrimony.

At first their marriage had been a series of shabby rooms, somehow anchoring their sordid struggle for existence—for bare existence; room rent when it was due and enough food for each meal coming up. Not once during all that time did they buy any salt, nor sugar either until each landlady learned to keep hers put away. Just a dark-brown-toned plane of nothingness no deeper than sex relationship on which they lay as darker silhouettes while time pushed them on, not as individuals, separate identities, but as an infinitesimal part of universal change.

At times they got drunk together and imagined things. This was the best, the highest they could reach in the dark-brown-toned pattern—this imagining. It was something burnished—almost silver, almost gold; really it was brass. When they both caught it at the same time, it was beautiful in a way. All the pageantry and excitement and luxuriousness of rich white life in white capitalism was there—the rainbow Room and the Metropolitan Opera, Miami and Monte Carlo, deluxe liners and flights by night. And

doing things, noble, heroic, beautiful things for her—"Because I love you." . . . Things he had been taught to desire from birth—denied him before he was born.

Because I love you. . . If I really loved you, baby, I would blow out your brains. Right now! Because all you can ever look forward to, baby, is never having nothing you ever dreamed about. Low lights and soft music, luxury and ease, travel and pleasure—*acceptance!* Not for you, baby, not for us. We got dipped in the wrong river, baby, we got dipped in the mud. Your soul might be white as snow; but the color of your soul doesn't count in America, baby.

However, all that was before he got on WPA. He wasn't born on WPA as in after years white industrialists seemed to think when he applied for work. During the first year of their married life he had several jobs—busboy in a hotel dining room, porter in a drug store; he even tried writing policy, but the players didn't like him. He couldn't shop the proper degree of sympathy when some one played 341 and 342 came out. It was a dirty clip racket as far as he could see and he felt sorry for them. And that just didn't do. The pickup man took his book one day, and he told Clara, "We should have been on the other end."

The best job he had was one at the Country Club in the spring of 1939. He was serving drinks in the tap room. But it was hard to take. When the members got in their cups, all their white supremacy came out. They were very, very white when they got drunk.

He could have borne their disgustingness, for after all that didn't prove their racial superiority. They were no more disgusting when drunk than the Negroes down on Scovil avenue in the prostitution area. He could even had put up with their "mammies"; their dear old "black mammies" who raised them, and in later years gave cause to, and proof of, the fact that all white people love Negroes. He came to feel that a white person without a "black mammy" just didn't count. And the exhibitions of odd and unusual sex presented by some of the members in their stages of drunkenness did not shock him, nor even disturb him—he could see this coming up and dodge.

But what finally got him and drove him away from a really good job; a job where all he had to do to earn his ten and fifteen dollars in tips every night was just to be a nigger; what finally gnawed him down to a jittery wreck was the fear that he might take a drink of Scotch some day and it would go to his head and make "that nigger crazy" and he could pull Mr. John Sutter Smythe out from under the table and ask him, "Look, Mr. Smythe, just what makes you think you are so superior to me?"

He quit the night Mr. Hanson told the joke about an old "black mammy," her daughter, and the white traveling salesman. If Mr. Hanson's wife and daughter had not

(Continued on page 204)

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY FEATURES A WAR PROGRAM

NEGROES are making their contribution to the war effort on the home as well as on the battle-front. Many of our schools and colleges have geared their programs to the accelerated demands of the war. Southern University of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has inaugurated a war training program which prepares prospective WACs and future soldiers for the maximum of efficiency in the armed forces.

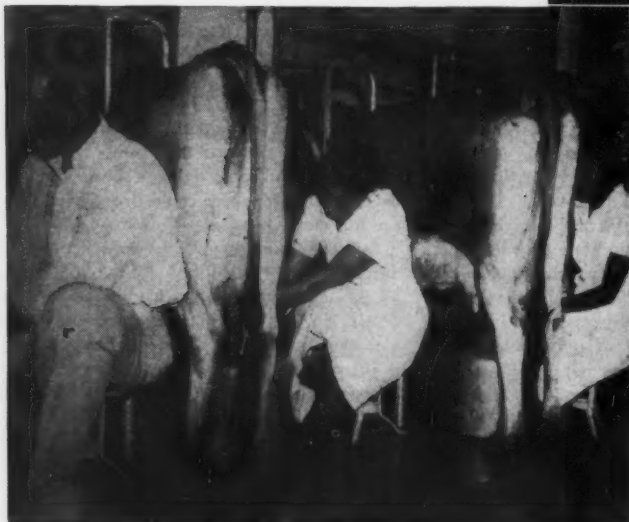
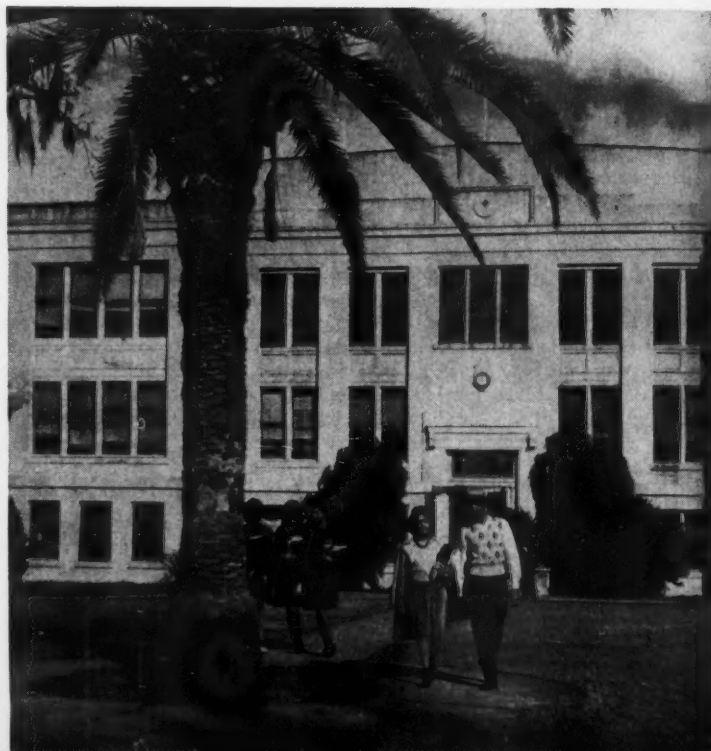
Both the women and the men pursue courses in engineering and drafting, radio, automobile mechanics, and the operation of lathes.

Other courses are offered in the use of modern heavy duty agricultural equipment, the proper care and feeding of hogs, the pasteurizing of milk.

All students take physical education, based upon army methods and ideas, six hours a week.

The hospital gives physical examinations to prospective soldiers and defense workers.

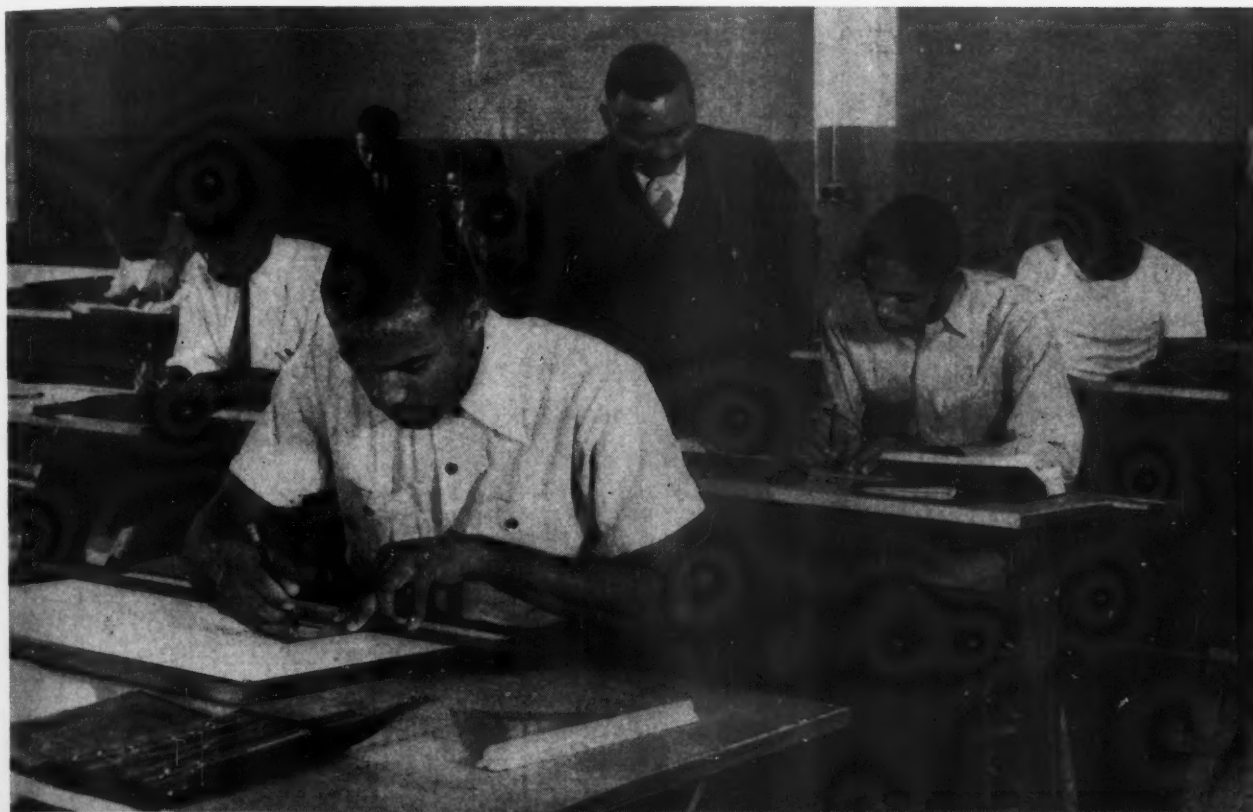
(More pictures of the Southern University War Program are found on the following pages.)



William Land From Three Lions

The upper picture shows the Academic building of Southern University at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This beautiful building houses instruction in most of the liberal arts. Lower left shows students of the Dairy Division milking cows in one of the school barns. Radio is popular at Southern University and the picture at the right shows two students in the ESMWT course in radio and Morse code. Here two prospective WACs are practicing transmitting and receiving.

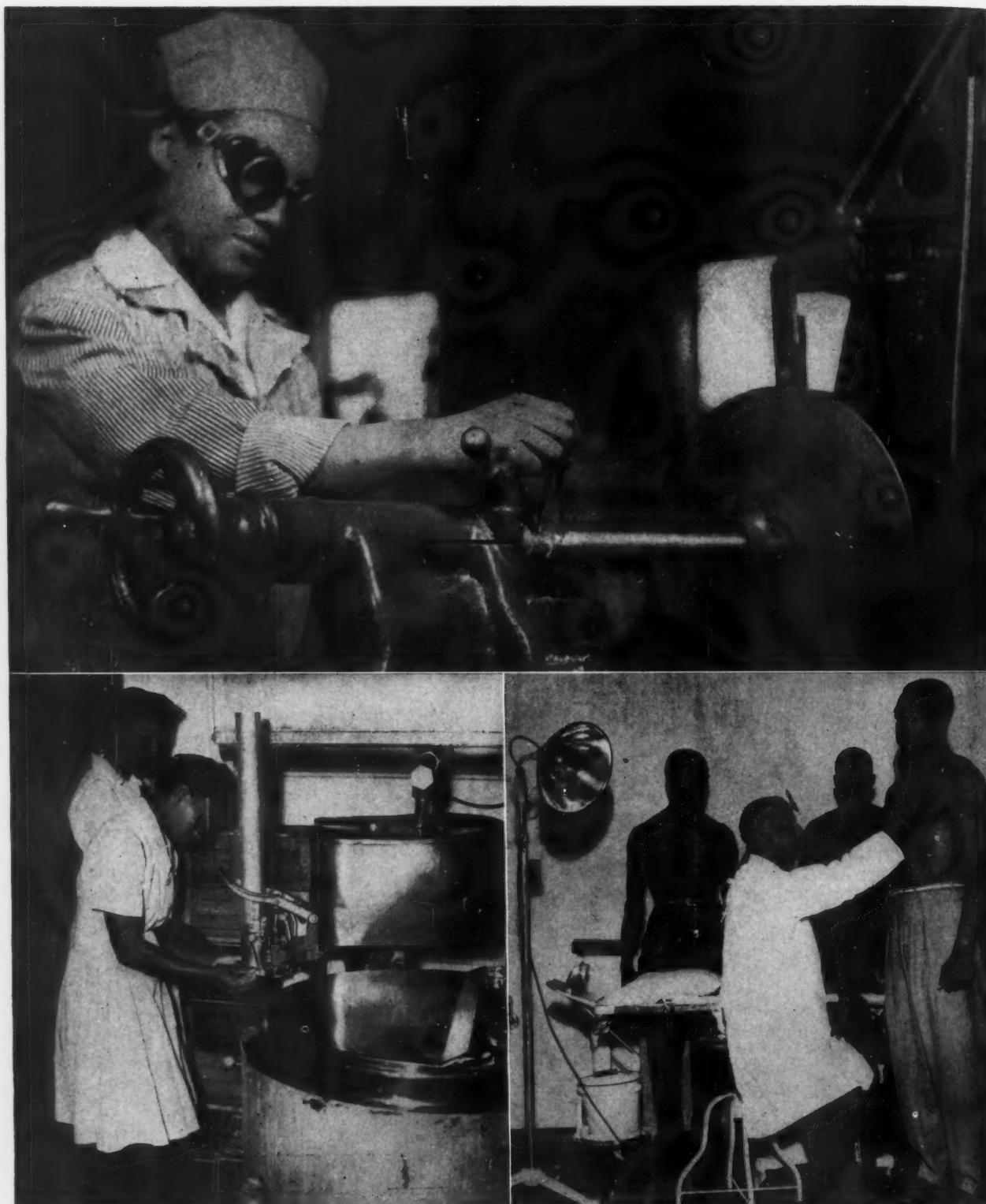
SHOP AND DRAFTING COURSES AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY



William Land From Three Lions

Top picture shows students in a course for engineering and drafting conducted by Dr. W. T. Daniels, a native of Texas, who was the first Negro to receive an engineering degree from the University of Arizona. Lower left shows the youthful genius, Dr. Blackwell (standing), who received his doctorate in physics from the University of Illinois at the age of 20, explaining the details of a radio circuit. Dr. Blackwell also studied at Princeton's Institute for advanced study on a Rosenwald fellowship. Lower right depicts a special class in automobile mechanics.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS LEARN SHOP SKILLS . . .



William Land From Three Lions

A Southern University student (top) operates a lathe in the University's mechanical shop. At lower left students are shown pasteurizing milk in the Dairy Division of the University. At the right are prospective soldiers and defense workers being examined by one of the University doctors in the school's small but ultra-modern hospital.

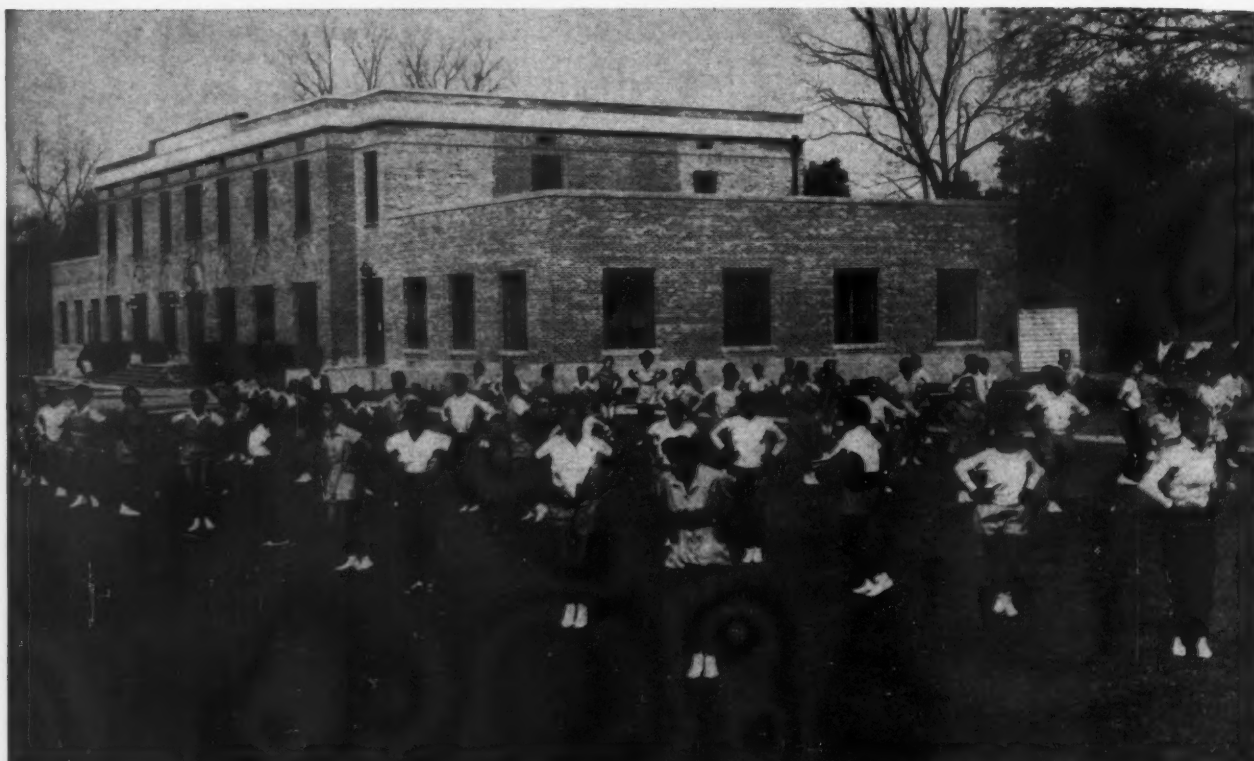
AS WELL AS HOW TO FARM AND HANDLE FARM EQUIPMENT



William Land From Three Lions

The two girls at the top are feeding hogs. At lower left agricultural students learn how to use modern heavy duty farm equipment and tractors. Right: Farmerettes of Southern are coming home from the fields.

THEY ALSO LEARN HOW TO KEEP PHYSICALLY FIT



William Land From Three Lions

Top: Southern's students must, especially since the war began, take at least six hours per week of physical education, based upon army methods and ideas. In the background is the modern gymnasium of the college. The girl at the lower left has just stopped for a drink. At the right is a date on the campus.

Race Prejudice in Latin America

By Richard Pattee

IT is not uncommon to discover the impression that in the other republics of this hemisphere the problem of race relations has been more or less solved. It has become current to speak of the social democracy attained by Brazil and the high degree of racial amalgamation achieved in Cuba and the Dominican Republic. In contrast with the United States it would probably be quite proper to affirm that the race question as such does not exist in Latin America. It is quite possible that the casual observer in Bahia, La Habana, San Juan or La Guaira receives the impression that if there is any distinction between the races, it is so cleverly concealed as to be practically invisible. This indeed is the superficial impression that all of these countries of mixed bloods give. Unfortunately, there are nuances to be explored which reveal that, in spite of the high degree of racial understanding that has been obtained, the evil of racial prejudice and discrimination has by no means been extirpated. I am sure this view is held by those who have visited Hispanic America for the purpose of examining the problem of race. Not long ago, Prof. Melville Herskovits of Northwestern University, the distinguished anthropologist and Africanist, suggested that this was precisely the anomaly to be found in Brazil; that the appearance was one thing and the reality another. It would be absurd to assume that Latin America has worked out the race question or has reached that point which most of us would like to see in which race as such is no longer a factor of significance or importance.

Race Prejudice vs. Racism

I would distinguish absolutely between the terms *racial prejudice* and *racism*. It is undoubtedly accurate to say that racism as such does not exist in Latin America as a principle. There are racists, to be sure, and with the influx of Jews in recent years, even an incipient anti-semitism is to be found here and there. But racism as a doctrine and as an idea is extremely rare. Certainly from any official point of view neither the Spanish nor the Portuguese set up any rigid, inflexible racial standard or claimed at any time to belong to anything remotely approaching a pure race. The colonizing Spaniards and Portuguese were singularly free from this stigma. Even when the term *raza* is employed as it is from time to time, the reference is not to blood or to purity or to anything of which Herr Goebels or Rosenberg

Race prejudice is much more cleverly concealed in Latin than in Anglo-Saxon America and is, therefore, not so obvious to visiting foreigners. Yet it exists, though it tends to lose itself in the much sharper differences of class. In this article a well-known authority on Latin America analyzes the differences between the racial prejudices of the two Americas

might approve. Race in this sense is something like the similar use of the word in French, *race*. It refers rather to a community of culture; to belonging to the general body of Hispanic faith and tradition. The Spanish revealed no reluctance to admit to this community of language, culture and spirit, persons of the most divergent ethnic origins. The genius of Spain and Portugal in America was precisely this capacity to admit as full-fledged members of the Hispanic family, persons who were of African or indigenous origin.

I recall some years ago in Habana a discourse by a gentleman of marked African

extraction who was extolling the virtues of the *día de la raza*. In the course of his homage to the work of Spain in America, he spoke of himself as belonging to *nuestra raza hispánica*. This claim to belong to the Hispanic race provoked considerable hilarity among many of the listeners to whom the speaker's coal black skin seemed to give the lie to any such assertion. On the contrary, this affirmation by a Cuban Negro revealed a very profound truism; namely, that the Spanish influence and culture was powerful enough to incorporate within its jurisdiction persons of different blood and create in them the spiritual kinship and affinity to Spain. The utterance of this Negro orator was, to my way of thinking, the most eloquent testimony to the effectiveness of the Spanish conquest of America. This man belonged in his own conviction and spirit to the culture of Spain. In language, thought, ideas and sentiment, he was no different from any Spaniard of mixed Hebrew, Arab and Visigothic ancestry.

In the legislation of both Spain and Portugal there is no hint that racism played any role whatsoever. On the contrary, the Laws of the Indies and other notable compilations, are full of articles and precepts which urge the intermarriage of the races as the only effective way of increasing the population and



Two Latin American Negro types: women of Curaçao making Panama hats. The raw material comes from Ecuador and Venezuela.

Three Lions

Three Lions
pon army
r a drink.

assuring a degree of social stability. It may be said, then, that racism as we conceive of it today, had no place in the Iberian colonization of the new world. The Portuguese certainly had no particular feelings in the matter as is evidenced by the facility with which they intermingled with Indians and Negroes in Brazil and in their African colonies.

Negrophobism Foreign

In neither Spanish nor Portuguese America did the idea ever take root that there was a natural antipathy between the races or that the European was supposed to have a repugnance for the Negro race. On the contrary, the fact of miscegenation was taken more or less for granted and was no cause of either concern or consternation to the society of the time. All of this sets the social organization of the Latin American countries somewhat apart from that of the United States. This creation of an elaborate system of restrictions and segregation; the legal impediments to a normal contact and the existence of violent outbursts of racial feeling in the form of race riots and the like are absolutely alien to Latin America.

As suggested above, this does not mean that race prejudice is non-existent. It takes a more subtle form, and is infinitely less apparent to the naked eye than in the United States. Jim Crowism, and all that it implies is to be found in no Latin American country. It is difficult to generalize about all of the republics where there are large nuclei of Negro population as the situation naturally varies from country to country. There does exist, however, what may be called a general and rather well-defined Negrophobism, especially in areas where the Negro element is relatively unimportant. Not long ago in Washington, a distinguished South American writer and educator, of a country which has no Negro population at all, chose to express the idea at a banquet that the progress and development of his country was in the direct proportion to the absence of Negroes. This particular republic, so the speaker claimed, had been saved the unfortunate consequences of the presence of the Negro which made the future of the West Indies, Central America and Brazil so dubious.

I am happy to say that there was also present at this gathering, an equally distinguished Haitian spokesman who took it upon himself to correct the allusion of the former speaker. The incident reveals what is almost always in the sub-consciousness of many Latin Americans; namely, the conviction that the progress of these nations is related in some way to the problem of race and that those areas where the Negro is small in number is precisely the region of greatest potentiality. This is part and parcel of the curious and widely diffused idea that Europeanism and civilization go hand in hand. I mention this specific case as an illustration of what is without a doubt a fairly widely



Three Lions

Young girls of Martinique. When this physical type belongs to the upper class, it is usually classified as "white" in Latin America.

held view or interpretation of Latin America. In Mexico it is not uncommon to find the same sentiment of hostility to the Negro as an element which hinders the work of progress. The Negro in Mexico, needless to say, is an infinitesimal minority and has no influence whatever on the course of events.

There is, however, what may be called for the sake of a better term, a "fixation" regarding the place and contribution of the Negro. In the Argentine this is very prevalent in all references to Brazil. It is not without significance that for many years the popular epithet for the Brazilians in the vocabulary of Argentina and Uruguay was *macacos* or monkeys, with reference to the large number of persons of mixed blood in the Brazilian population. There is, for example the case of Costa Rica which is often cited as the best exponent of democracy in Latin America. In almost every case the reason for this achievement is the supposedly pure Spanish blood of the majority of the inhabitants of that republic. The list could be extended of course in which the presence or absence of the Negro is interpreted as directly related to the progress or retrogression of Latin America.

Cultural Contributions Ignored

I believe it is true to state that outside of Cuba and of course Haiti and perhaps Brazil, there is practically no recognition that Negro

cultural contributions have played any part in the development of Latin America. In other words, the appreciation of the place of the Negro is severely handicapped by the almost universal sentiment that it is deplorable that he should ever be here in America in the first place. How different is this reaction to the lachrymose sentimentality that has been lavished all too frequently on the Indian!

Even in those republics where the Negro is an important element, how difficult it has been to dignify this appraisal. Dr. Fernando Ortiz, the great Cuban scholar in the field of Negro studies, has recounted in an address before the Club Atenas of Habana the numerous vicissitudes he underwent in carrying out his investigations. The Cuban Negroes themselves, unaccustomed to this sympathetic interest on the part of a white scholar, received him with reticence and suspicion. There were those who thought that he was either seeking political benefits or possibly the favors of some comely mulattress.

In the West Indies at least, the Negro has attained a relatively high degree of political equality as is attested by the participation of members of the race in public affairs. Many have reached positions of responsibility and influence thanks to their ability. The case of José Celso Barbosa in Puerto Rico is a case in point. The list of distinguished Cubans of color would be too long to include in a short resume of this sort.



Three Lions

This picture shows Haitians of the upper class on their way to the beach for a Sunday swim. Haiti is commonly thought of as a "Negro Republic," yet there are two Haitis: the Haiti of the elite, which is predominantly mulatto; and the Haiti of the peasant, which is predominantly black. Upper class Haitians eschew use of the word NÈGRE or Negro much preferring such euphemisms as BRUN or JAUNE, "brown" or "yellow."

On the other hand, racial prejudice manifests itself very definitely in the social sense. In Puerto Rico, for example, where the racial assimilation has gone further than anywhere else in the West Indies, the color line is drawn, although so fine that the outsider must look long and hard to discern it. In public places, conveyances, schools, or in the street there is no evidence at all of such discrimination. But, in the social sense it does exist and very markedly. There is a phrase which summarizes very adequately this position. In every Puerto Rican town it is to be found a casino or club which draws the society of that particular locality. It is not infrequent to hear that a person is classified as "not frequenting" the casino. No reference is made to color or to race, but the euphemism that so and so does not "frequent" indicates that because of race he or she is not welcome in the local club. There

is also the interesting and curious nomenclature given to persons of color. It would be revealing to examine the list of words used in Latin America in order to avoid the term Negro. Among them are *moreno*, *indio*, *trigueño* and a host of others.

Denigration of Negro

The terms of reproach and the epithets are also important evidence of the place of race in the thought of Latin American society. The term *grifo parejo* in the West Indies is indicative of a whole social attitude. The *grifo* is the result of the crossing of the Negro and the mulatto. The type is supposedly the least equipped to compete with either the dominant white or the mulatto who at least is half and half. The term *parejero*, of purely local origin, refers to the aggressiveness, the pugnaciousness

and general lack of inhibitions which the *grifo* displays in his social conduct. This same phenomenon is repeated in many other instances in which the Negro or those of mixed blood suffer the consequences of social antipathy.

Even in the case of Haiti, although many Haitians are prone to minimize the fact, the problem of race prejudice has played a role of most serious repercussions in the history of the republic. Time and time again the conflict of mulatto and black has arisen to vex and torment the Haitian people. The unfortunate heritage of the struggle of Rigaud and Toussaint has never been entirely wiped out.

An all important manner of demonstrating the reluctance with which the reality of the Negro is taken is found in the fact that in those countries where the African is not a majority, or where the bloods have been inextricably fused, there is an almost bitter resentment against any hint that the Negro is important. I recall endless discussions in Puerto Rico regarding the actual percentage of Negro blood in the total population. Outside observers tend to place it high; local observers to place it low. The estimates vary, therefore, from 20 to 60 per cent. Probably both are wrong. The interesting conclusion, however, is that to no one does it occur that it doesn't make any difference in any case. To what degree this sensitivity to the accusation of having a large Negro population is an instinctive reaction or is the product of complex factors from outside would be hard to say.

I suspect that fundamentally there is always the fear that in the United States the view may prevail that a given country is largely Negro. In the light of the well-known prejudice in the United States every effort must be made to avoid this appearance. This is true, of course, of countries where some case for white preponderance can be made. It would not be the case of Haiti, Barbadoes, or the Virgin Islands. There is an unhealthy element in all of this which will require much effort to modify. It is the basic assumption that a country possessing a large Negro element has a handicap and cannot hope to achieve the same degree of progress as the other republics which have either an Indian or a European background.

The problem is a fundamental one. The story of what the Negro has accomplished in Africa in the way of forging a culture should be much better known. The frightful handicaps under which the Negro developed in the new world ought to be emphasized even more. The capacity for assimilation and integration with the European civilization to be found in America is the most eloquent testimony to the inherent ability of the Negro to cope with a strange and hostile elements in the environment.

BUY WAR BONDS

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

WHITE GIVES WAR DEPARTMENT FOURTEEN POINTS ON NEGRO TROOPS ABROAD: Based upon his 15-week, 20,000-mile tour of military installations in the European theatre of operations, in North Africa, Italy, and the Middle East as an accredited foreign correspondent for the *New York Post*, Walter White made fourteen recommendations in a report to the War Department. The fourteen points included:

OFF LIMITS—That General Eisenhower's directive to abolish "off limits" of towns and pubs be enforced in all areas. Negro soldiers resent bitterly the off limits order, or orders setting "odd" and "even" nights for white and colored troops to visit towns and places of amusement.

COURTS MARTIAL—A special board of review of courts-martial cases among Negro soldiers "because of their belief that they are punished more quickly and more severely than white soldiers." The special board of review should include an eminent Negro lawyer, with appropriate rank, who would be brought in to serve.

COMBAT TROOPS—The department is urged to send Negro combat troops to England. Stories were being circulated that there are no Negro combat troops in England because "Negroes are afraid to fight." White termed as "unfortunate" the fact that, with the exception of some anti-aircraft units, only Ne-

gro service troops had been sent to the European theatre.

Supporting his recommendation for more combat troops, White cited the improved atmosphere in the Mediterranean as a result of the exploits of the 99th Pursuit Squadron. He recommended that Negro and white fighter squadrons function in the same group.

In connection with the morale value of the presence of Negro combat troops, more Negro officers above the rank of captain should be sent to England.

ANTI-NEGRO RUMORS—The spreading of vicious and fantastic rumors about Negroes, resented deeply by many Negro soldiers, should be tracked down and scotched by G-2 (Army Intelligence) because of their tendency to sap morale.

There is less anti-Negro propaganda in the Mediterranean than in England, but Army Intelligence should run down the people who were issuing leaflets, placards, and other material seeking to poison Italians against Negroes.

MILITARY POLICE—The same complaint abroad on Military Police was found that has been made in some parts of America, namely that white MPs are armed, but Negro MPs are not. He recommended that no MPs be armed except when guarding payrolls.

PATERNALISM—Paternalistic attitudes on the part of white officers is resented, White

reported, saying that both well-educated and less-educated Negroes resent being treated as "boys." Abandonment of the idea that southern white officers are best for Negro troops because they "understand" Negroes was urged. Many white officers from the South, however, are fair and decent in their treatment of Negroes. Yet there is no guarantee that a man will be free from prejudice just because he happens to be from the North.

LECTURES—Lectures to American white troops aboard ships as they near England on the difference between the British and American attitudes toward color, together with lectures to British troops by competent Americans on America and the true place of the Negro as a citizen of his country would be helpful.

More Negro actors and singers were recommended for the entertainment of both white and Negro troops.

RED CROSS—After praising the American Red Cross for doing "in many respects a superlative job," White deplored the "white" and "Negro" Red Cross clubs located in many areas as not only introducing segregation to the British, but denying white and Negro American soldiers the opportunity to know each other better. He cited the non-segregated pattern of one club as a model for the Red Cross everywhere.

CENSORSHIP—More news and more sym-

PANCAS OF THE CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, BRANCH



Seated left to right: Mrs. Ellen Chambers, Miss Genevieve Taliferro, Mrs. W. J. Astrapp, Mrs. J. W. Shell, Mrs. Roberta Moraney, Mrs. Mamie Walton, Mrs. W. O. Woods, Mrs. D. D. Stephens, Mrs. W. J. Davenport, Mrs. W. H. Warren. Standing left to right: Clarence B. Robinson, U. W. Richardson, L. D. Collins, W. O. Bryson, A. F. Dixon, H. E. White, Dr. P. A. Stephens, H. F. Taliferro, Judson Cox, Rev. P. D. Kingings, W. J. Davenport.

pathetic handling of news dealing with Negro troops by the censors would be very helpful because it would give Negro civilians a better picture of the contribution of their men to the war.

LAGGING BEHIND—White's concluding recommendation was a suggestion that the War Department policy on race "lags behind that of much of the personnel of the Army." He said an advanced position would meet opposition, but would be approved by "a much larger percentage . . . than the War Department appears to believe possible."

SUITS TO BE FILED IN PRIMARY CASES: The refusal of election officials to allow Negroes to vote in the May 2 primaries in Florida and Alabama is going to be challenged in the courts. While a few Negroes voted in both Florida and Alabama, many were refused. In Mobile a group of fifteen in the seventh ward were barred from the polling places by Deputy Sheriff Frank Pryor, who stretched his arms across the entrance. He told them the primary was a strictly white affair and suggested sarcastically that they take the matter to the courts.

In the fourth ward in Mobile, Drs. E. B. and P. W. Goode were denied the right to vote. In the sixth ward Raymond Scott, a business man, and Frank Jones, a railroad worker, were followed into the booth by a crowd of curious whites and were not allowed to vote. According to word from J. L. LeFlore, NAACP official in Mobile, about fifteen citizens are expected to file affidavits immediately with the Department of Justice. Civil suits will also be instituted in Montgomery county where Negroes were denied the right to vote.

DEWEY DODGES POLL TAX BILL: Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York, who is expected to be nominated by the Republicans on the first ballot for president of the United States, still refuses to take a positive stand on the anti-poll tax bill now pending in the Senate. In answering a telegram of May 10 from Walter White asking him to urge Republican senators to vote for cloture on the bill and for the bill itself, Governor Dewey wired White May 11:

"I have your telegram concerning the fight against the poll-tax now pending in the United States Senate. My views on this subject are well known. I have always fought against the poll tax and every other device to deprive free people of their votes." This telegram dodged all of White's specific requests.

This "weaseling" of Governor Dewey's gave Senator Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi an opening for the declaration: "I agree with Governor Dewey of New York that the poll tax should be abolished, but this ain't the way to do it."

This is the third time in recent months that Governor Dewey has acted in such a way as to injure the best interests of Negro voters. His first act was to release a statement during the debate on the soldier vote bill saying he

TEXAS COUNSEL



W. J. Durham of Dallas, Texas, was local counsel in the Texas primary case.

avored a states' right bill. Since the leading states' rights advocates in Congress had declared that they were out to protect "white supremacy" Dewey's statement has been interpreted as joining with the Bilbos and the Rankins.

Dewey's second error was in by-passing a state Fair Employment Practice bill, recommended for passage to the New York legislature by a committee appointed by Dewey. Instead of pushing this legislation, Dewey recommended the creation of a new commission to study the race question and to report in 1945.

The third action of the New York Governor occurred May 11 when he dodged the clear issue presented by the anti-poll tax bill in the Senate. Commenting on Senate failure to invoke cloture on the anti-poll tax bill May 15, Walter White called the "whole performance in the Senate a farce, from start to finish." He also added: "A coalition of Southern and Western Democrats with reactionary Republicans have won the day. The characteristic failure of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York to take a forthright stand on a bill so important to democracy, plus the outright opposition to it by the Senate Republican leader, Senator Wallace H. White, Jr., of Maine, contributed materially to today's debacle.

"Negro voters who hold the potential balance of power in seventeen States with 281 electoral votes will remember those who betrayed democracy in November, 1944, and in succeeding Novembers."

COURT THROWS OUT MOTION TO RESTRAIN "NEGRO SOLDIER": On May 9, Federal Judge

Alfred C. Cox tossed out of court the motion for a court injunction against the showing of the War Department documentary film "The Negro Soldier." The injunction had been sought by The Negro Marches On, Inc., and Jack Goldberg, who claimed that their movie, "We've Come a Long, Long Way" was being injured by the War Department film.

The NAACP, through counsel, entered a motion for leave to intervene as amicus curiae on the ground that the widest possible circulation should be given to an official War Department film showing the role of the Negro in the war.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT PROSECUTE IN KILLING OF SOLDIER: Tom C. Clark, assistant United States Attorney General, has advised the NAACP that no action will be taken by the Department of Justice in the killing of Private Edward Green on March 14, 1944, by a bus driver in Alexandria, La.

The facts in the case show that Private Green was deliberately shot and killed by a bus driver after he had alighted from the bus and the driver had followed him to the road. After the driver came out of the bus into the road where Private Green stood, he shot and killed him in cold blood. An argument had developed on the bus between Private Green and the driver because the driver said Green was sitting in a section reserved for white people. Green refused to move but said rather than have any trouble he would leave the bus. He left the bus and got out into the road where the driver followed him and shot him.

After the NAACP had presented the case to the War Department, Truman K. Gibson, Jr., Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, wrote under date of April 1, 1944, saying that a synopsis of events prepared by an army investigating officer contained the following statement:

"Considering the testimony of all the witnesses and the circumstances surrounding this case, the conclusion is inescapable that there was no justification, moral or legal, for the taking of the life of Private Edward Green by Odell Lachnette."

In a letter to Assistant Attorney General Clark, Thurgood Marshall said:

"The bus driver is still working in Alexandria and we are repeatedly receiving requests from Negro soldiers in that area as to what, if anything, is going to be done about this man. I hope you can realize the effect on the morale of the Negro soldiers who realize that although one of their number is killed without provocation, the same government for which they are fighting refuses to take any action whatsoever to prosecute the guilty party."

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Branch News

ARIZONA: The Rev. Fred A. Line, pastor of the First Congregational church, Phoenix, and John C. Credille of Mesa were principal speakers at the April meeting of the Phoenix branch.

CONNECTICUT: Rabbi David Polish of Temple Israel was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Waterbury branch April 24 held in the Pearl Street Neighborhood House.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: In April the Rev. Arthur D. Gray, president of the Washington branch, announced the appointment of Joseph F. Albright as special assistant in the Washington office. Albright has been actively engaged in interracial-goodwill work for the past twenty-four years and he was for several years president and chairman of the board of the Duluth, Minn., branch of the NAACP. He has been employed as office executive in government agencies and private industry and was recently released from the United States Army Air Forces, where he served in the Special Service and Public Relations branches.

On May 9 Rev. Arthur D. Gray presented the executive committee of the District branch his resignation as president, to take effect immediately. The executive committee voted to accept the resignation with expressions of "profound regret and deep appreciation" of Rev. Gray's services to the branch. Rev. Gray stated that his resignation was necessitated by his acceptance of the pastorate of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Chicago, where he was installed early in June.

William H. Hastie, vice-president of the branch, has been named to fill out the unexpired term of Rev. Gray until the regular annual election in November.

The Washington branch condemned the recent revision of the policy of the Gayety Theatre with regard to the admission of Negroes. A letter addressed to the manager stated that the present admission of Negroes by the front door only to have them segregated in a special section does not represent any essential liberalization but is a compromise which is "dangerous, unwise and undemocratic in principle."

The branch also protested against the plan to designate the Washington National Airport as a Federal Reservation under the jurisdiction of the state of Virginia. "The adoption of such a proposal," the letter stated, "would mean that the locale and operation of the Airport area would be subjected to the discriminatory laws and customs of the State of Virginia. . . . To deliberately subject the operation of a Federal preserve to a definite exposure of racial prejudice is entirely contrary to the established constitutional law of the Federal Government."

GEORGIA: In April the Columbus branch sponsored an open meeting at the Wynnton

Hill Baptist church to encourage the good conduct drive for Columbus Negroes as well as to boost the membership of the branch to 2,000. Among the speakers were Dr. W. G. McCoo, Dr. W. T. Grant, W. M. Thomas, and R. D. Arline.

The membership drive of the Savannah branch got under way in May with a huge public mass meeting addressed by Judge William H. Hastie. Goal of the branch is 3,000 members.

LOUISIANA: Officers of the Baton Rouge branch are: B. J. Stanley, president; Charles Malarcher, vice-president; George S. Mack, treasurer; and Mrs. D. J. Dupuy, secretary. Members of the executive committee are W. W. Winbush, W. M. Henderson, Joseph Castain, Rev. G. C. Taylor, Jordan Branch, Harry Carter, Joseph Banks, Wm. Morrison, Mrs. Margaret Johnson, Mrs. Lee Esther Anderson, Mrs. Hattie Jones, Clay Williams, and Herman Dunbar.

MASSACHUSETTS: John S. Barreau, chairman of the New Bedford delegates to the New England Regional Conference of the NAACP held in March in Springfield, reported on the conference at an April meeting of the New Bedford branch.

Miss Marguerite Carson of Springfield has been elected executive director of the New England Regional Conference of the NAACP. For the time being Miss Carson will have her headquarters in Springfield.

MICHIGAN: The highlight of the program, attended by more than 400 persons, of the Grand Rapids branch in April was a panel discussion on the retention of employment gains in the postwar period and techniques for preventing postwar unemployment of Negroes. Among those participating in the discussion were Wilbur Warren, UAW-CIO committeeman of the Grand Rapids Metalcraft corporation; Walter F. Healey, of the U. S. Employment service; and David Sherwood, UAW-CIO international representative.

Charges of brutality brought by the Detroit branch against a member of the Detroit police force have been proved correct. Commissioner John Ballenger of the Police Department informed the branch that patrolman Albert J. Tinnette, charged with "conduct unbecoming an officer," was found guilty of using "more force than was reasonably necessary in the performance of his duties as an officer and ordered to forfeit five day's pay." The disciplinary order was signed by Commissioner John Ballenger, Superintendent Louis L. Berg, and Chief of Detectives Paul Wencel.

Tinnette was taken before the trial board on three charges and found guilty of two. The charges were wilful maltreatment and assault on a citizen; use of greater force and severity than was reasonably necessary; and failure to exercise proper discretion in performance of duty. This is the first time that

CRISIS AGENT



Little George Morris, age four, grandson of Mrs. Helen Brown, outstanding worker of the Baltimore branch, sells twenty copies of THE CRISIS each month.

a police officer has been found guilty by the trial board for charges growing out of police brutality.

The branch commended Ballenger for his fairness and promptness in securing action on the allegations of Suttles, a sixteen-year-old youth who was struck by officer Tinnette while at work at Cunningham's Drug Store. The Receiving Hospital was ordered to refund money paid by Suttles for treatment. Ballenger stated that the police department will be responsible for the entire medical bill.

Youth Council News

PHILADELPHIA, PA.: Members of the MARY WHITE OVINGTON YOUTH COUNCIL are actively engaged in projects to curb the increasing trends of juvenile delinquency. Appeals will be made for the cooperation of parents while 50,000 signatures are being procured for a petition to invoke a curfew law to affect all areas of the city rather than just the predominantly white section now covered.

The Elate Victory Servicemen's Canteen is also sponsored by this group. Miss Phyllis Graham, former secretary of the council and still active with the group is largely responsible for the success of this, the first Negro-sponsored Servicemen's center in Philadelphia.

Following a speech by Mrs. Ruby Hurley, youth secretary, dealing with the responsibility

ties of youth in making this a better world, at the West Philadelphia youth council's Sunday Forum on May 7, Father Thomas Logan, rector of the St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, gave the group permission to open a "Teen-Age Canteen" at the Mission House. A clean-up committee has begun work and activities are expected to start in the next few weeks. . . . Other canteens will be opened in various parts of the city in the youth councils' efforts to control juvenile delinquency.

TAMPA, FLORIDA: In observance of National Negro Youth Week, the youth council sponsored Tag Day and initiated an annual tea. Thirteen new members were secured during the week and a goal of twenty-five new members per week was set as the goal during the nation-wide membership campaign. Activities have been planned for the spring and summer, beginning with a May dance and including a special program for service men.

Officers are Wallace Lott, president, Ollie Mae James, secretary, Paul Lott, treasurer and Miss Nelis James, adviser.

CHICAGO, ILL.: The youth section of the Annual Conference meeting in Chicago, July 12-16, 1944 will be entertained by the Chicago youth council. More than one hundred new members have been recruited during their recent campaign and their plans are underway to make this the most successful conference yet held. Officers are president, Robert Burns; vice-president, Lillian Jones; secretary, Helen Thompson; treasurer, Willie Banks.

* * *

The Youth Secretary has announced that the Sixth Annual Student Conference will be held at Virginia-Union University, Richmond, Virginia, November 3, 4, 5, 1944.

WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY, OHIO: This recently organized chapter has doubled its membership in the last month and has set as its goal no less than 100 members. It is negotiating with various restaurants in nearby Xenia, Ohio in a concerted attempt to end discrimination. Letters have been sent to the owners and managers as a first step and the cooperation of community leaders has been solicited.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.: The Brooklyn Inter-Racial youth council, which is dedicated to work for better understanding and appreciation of young people for one another, sponsored another borough-wide activity, "An Inter-Cultural Festival," May 28.

DETROIT, MICH.: Mr. Prather Hauser was the guest speaker of the youth council April 7 at the YMCA. In addition to presenting a regular panel of speakers for the youth, the education committee has recommended several outstanding books for the youth to read.

During the week of April 23-29 the council focused attention on the aims, achievements, needs, and potentialities of youth throughout the United States. An interracial panel discussion, "Youth Problems Now and After the War," was also held.

Book Reviews

PAP AND PANTOMIME

Negro Progress Since Slavery. By O. M. Morris. 4701 East Side Avenue, Dallas, Texas, n. d. 192 pp. \$1.00.

The Wind From Nowhere (A novel). By Oscar Micheaux. Illustrated. New York: Book Supply Co., 40 Morningside Ave., 1943. \$2.75.

The title of the first of these books is misleading, for the book tells very little about Negro progress and offers as a substitute a hodge-podge of history, religion, slavery, biography, and the law. From the way the author handles these snippety facts it seems that he himself has not been fully emancipated from those American notions of Negro inferiority which he is ostensibly attacking. The book is badly written, very poorly organized, and the author is not always accurate as to his facts.

The second book tells the story of Martin Eden, an ambitious and successful Negro pioneer settled in the Rosebud country of South Dakota. The plot revolves around Eden's desire to take unto himself a wife. Opposed like almost every Nordic American to intermarriage of the races, Eden refuses to acknowledge the love of Deborah Stewart because he thinks her white and marries instead Linda Lee, Negro. His sister- and father-in-law betray him, but at the right melodramatic moment Deborah, who is really colored after all, comes to his rescue and the story then ends on the usual Pollyanna note.

Though the jacket blurb describes the book as a "novel of Negro life," it is in reality cinematic melodrama and not a novel of Negro life at all despite the side excursions of Martin into the Aframerican jungles of Atlanta, Southside Chicago, and New York's Harlem. This book is simply the old dime-thriller with Negro characters substituted. As a story the book is structurally faulty and drippingly sentimental: characters, dialogue, and situation are unconvincing, and even the love story and the villainy are stagey.

J. W. I.

Canapé-Vert. By Philippe Thoby-Marcelin and Pierre Marcelin. Translated by Edward Lacroque Tinker. New York: Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., 1944. XXVII+225pp. \$2.50.

This is, so far as the writer knows, the first Haitian novel ever to be translated into English. It is the prize-winning novel in the Second Latin-American contest sponsored by Farrar & Rinehart. The authors are

brothers and leaders in the new Haitian literary movement to free Haitian letters from the dead pall of French imitation.

Canapé-Vert is a lean story told in terse, poetic prose; the story of Haitian hill peasants, their daily lives, their beliefs, and their naive superstitions. There is scant plot and that little revolves around the peasant farmer Aladin, his discarded mistress, Sanite, and his new love Florina. Aladin breaks with Sanite but before he can install Florina in his hut she falls in love with his best friend José, an overdressed buck just back from the Cuban cane fields. Sanite, failing to recapture Aladin even with the aid of a *bocor* and his magic, commits suicide. Mounted by the

loa General Angelssou, Aladin goes on a rampage and kills both Florina and José and then disappears.

The book is one of lush tropical violence and deep tragedy. Florina's father Previlon is killed by a falling tree; Jose's father Ton'on Bossa dies mysteriously; and everyone in the village lives and moves in the dread fog of maleficent vodun deities. So inextricably linked are the real and the supernatural that the translator lists the cast of the book as "human, super-human, and animal."

In light of the emphasis on vodun, this reviewer gets the impression that the book was
(Continued on page 204)

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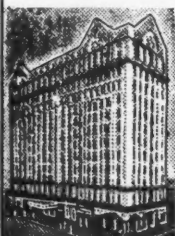
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Book Reviews

(Continued from page 202)

written expressly for American consumption, as it probably was, since it was submitted for an American prize. Vodun in Haitian novels is treated usually as an integral part of Haitian peasant life, as in Savains *La Case de Damballah* or Casseus' *Viejo*, to mention just two, but it seldom bulks so large as it does in *Canapé-Vert*.

J. W. I.

Southern Editorial Opinion

(Continued from page 187)

justice by restraining our tempers and our tongues. The situation cannot be resolved by blind stubbornness, arrogance or inflammatory utterance and action."

The *Atlanta Constitution* says, "While the decision is a shock to the south and will be generally regretted as coming at this time, it has been made and it cannot be ignored"; although "Obviously government in these areas [the south] is not to be turned over to these Negroes. . . ."

Blatantly the *Macon Telegraph* argues: "It becomes more evident every day that the first duty of the incoming congress, if the established institutions of American government are to be saved, is wholesale impeachment of every member of the administration who has conspired to destroy the Constitution of the United States, and that these impeachment proceedings should be directed, first of all, to those members of the Supreme Court who have lavishly carried out the orders of the New Deal without the slightest consideration of Constitutional principles. . . . We do know that the Yankee intermeddlers who have forced through the Supreme Court this despicable decision have done an ill service for the Negroes of this country, have destroyed public confidence in the Constitution of the United States. . . ."

In Louisiana the *Shreveport Times* opines that ". . . the court's recent decisions have been of such a nature that more than one of its present members openly have charged their present fellow members with MAKING law instead of interpreting it, and with MAKING laws to fit their own momentary and changing political philosophies on domestic problems of the day rather than on the basis of sound experience, tradition and the Constitution itself. In other words, that is simply next door to saying the present court, through political philosophies of a majority of its members, may be becoming a partisan political agency. . . ."

The *Charleston, S. C., News & Courier* is vociferous in its objection to the decision. The editor argues that the primary system in

South Carolina is in decay and should be abolished in favor of the convention system because "there should remain no South Carolina primaries [for Negroes] to crash." "To retain it [the primary system] and admit 300,000 negro men and women to vote in it would make South Carolina uninhabitable by decent white people."

"The new ruling is a milestone in the long and arduous struggle to obtain for the Negro the civil rights accorded to him by the Constitution. He should exercise great vigilance—and temperateness—lest new expedients be devised to thwart this newly-won franchise," comments the *Knoxville, Tenn., News-Sentinel*.

A concluding opinion which seems representative of the thinking of many liberal southerners comes, not from a southern editor, but from a "born southerner," G. C. Grant, expressed in a letter to the editor of the *Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch*: "That decision [of the Supreme Court] was a signal victory for American democracy itself and our way of life."

God's Chillun Got Pride

(Continued from page 189)

been present, and a number of other members and their wives, he would never have repeated it a year later to white women on WPA who insisted that white men treat Negro women with the greatest respect and chivalry—because it was really a dirty story.

"You understand, Miss Wilson," he apologized at the end, "I would not have dared tell you such a story if I had not heard a respectable white gentleman tell it in the presence of a number of respectable white gentlewomen. . . ."

Miss Wilson got up and walked away.

But he had not told her the most important part. The most important part was simply that after having listened to the joke, after having remained until it was too late to leave, having allowed himself to be maneuvered into a position where he had either to be a fool or a coward, he turned and went inside the office and quit.

He could have stepped over to the table, picked up some "blunt instrument" as the prosecution says, and knocked Mr. Hansen unconscious. But that would have given him three beatings and a sentence of one to twenty years for assault with intent to kill; and he would have not been released under the twenty years unless Mr. Hansen had relented, and that was to say the least, unlikely.

On the other hand it was also a matter of the value of his pride. It was problematical from the first whether his pride was worth all of those beatings and twenty years to boot. Or if it was worth it, whether he was prepared to spend that much to keep it.

Now the value of pride is something that either goes up or down with the passing of years.

Keith's went up. Some time during his wearing of the proud uniform of a soldier in the Army of the United States it went priceless.

Keith is in the guard-house now.

Canada Lee Rewarded

On May 28, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Brooklyn Inter-Racial Youth Council, whose chairman is Charles L. Kellar, presented an award to Canada Lee in recognition of his contributions to the cause of spreading goodwill, tolerance and understanding among Americans of all races, religions and national origins.

Negro Hospitals In Penicillin Depots

A number of Negro hospitals have been included among the more than 1,000 such institutions selected as depot hospitals for the limited civilian distribution of penicillin, the Chemicals Bureau of the War Production has announced.

Included among the hospitals that should begin receiving the first shipments of the drug are Grady Memorial, Atlanta, Ga.; Provident, Chicago, Ill.; Flint-Goodridge, New Orleans, La.; Provident Hospital and Free Dispensary, Baltimore, Md.; the Homer G. Phillips and the St. Mary's Hospitals, St. Louis, Mo.; Harlem and Lincoln Hospitals, New York City; Lincoln, Durham, N. C.; St. Agnes, Raleigh, N. C.; Mercy, Philadelphia, Pa.; and the George W. Hubbard Hospital of Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn.

Jamaicans Arrive For Farm Work

Arrival of 804 workers, the first of 12,000 to 13,000 whom the War Food Administration's Office of Labor plans to bring into this country from Jamaica in 1944 for employment in critical farm labor shortage areas, has been announced by WFA. The entire number is expected to be here by the middle of July.

J. Edgar Hoover Commends Negroes

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has commended Negro groups and individuals for assisting the Bureau in enforcing the Selective Service Act. "Persons of all races and from all walks of life, with the Negro taking a conspicuous role, have in the past rendered the Federal Bureau of Investigation valuable assistance in enforcement of the Selective Training and Service Act," Mr. Hoover said.

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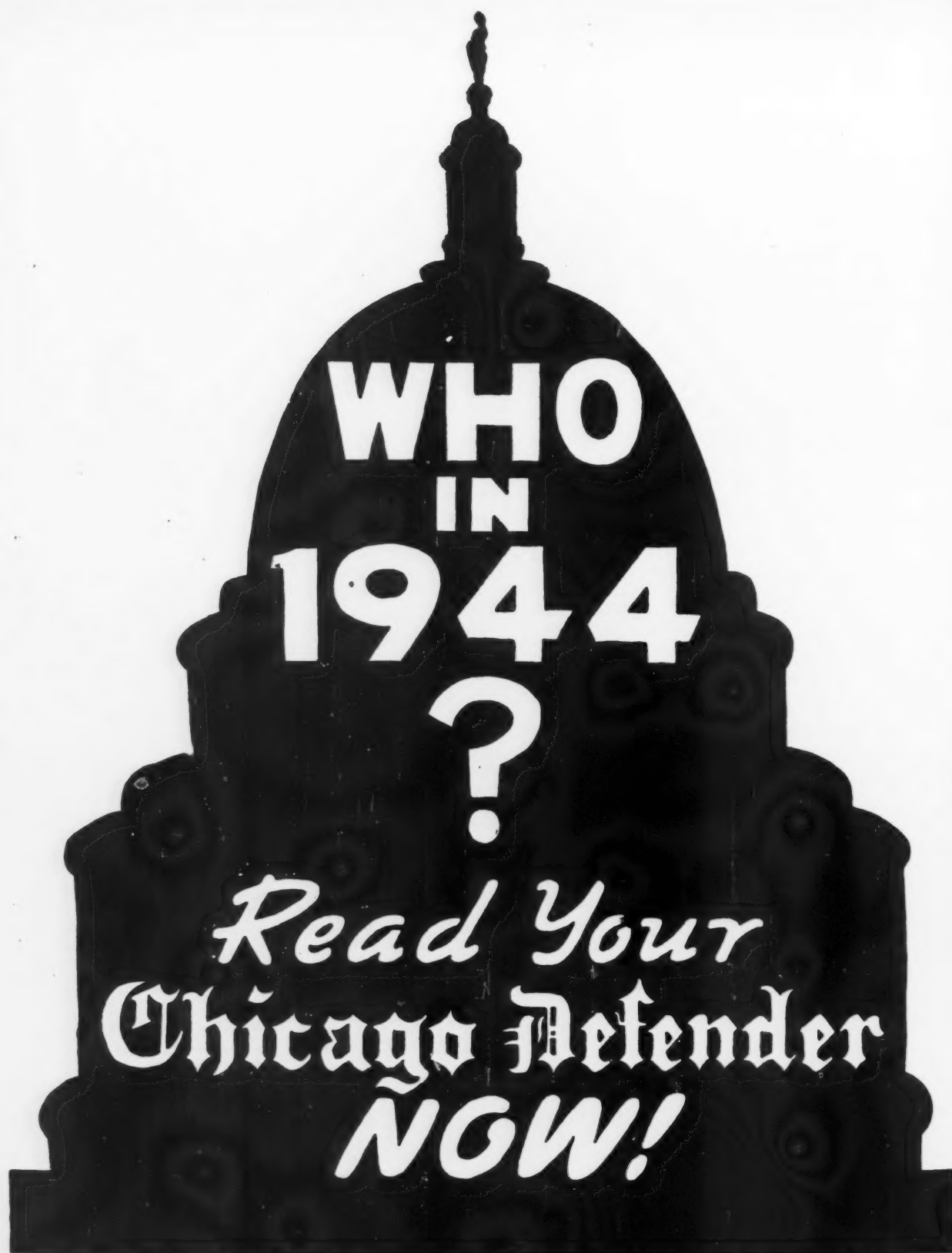
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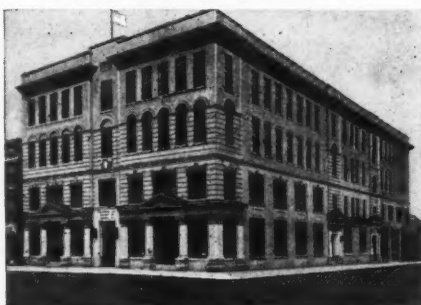
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